



# Department of Justice

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## **ORANGE COUNTY WOMAN CHARGED WITH THEFT**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JODY H. RUTHERFORD, 34, Orleans, IN, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis in a two-count Indictment for Theft of Government Funds & Failing to Disclose, following an investigation by the Social Security Administration.

The indictment alleges that between December 2005 until September 2008, the defendant received approximately \$30,513 in Social Security Administration Survivor's Benefits to which she was not entitled. Specifically, the defendant concealed her November 2005 remarriage from the Social Security Administration. This event would have affected her rights to continue receiving survivor's benefits.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Doris L. Pryor, who is prosecuting the case for the government, RUTHERFORD faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years for count 1 and 5 years imprisonment for count 2. The maximum possible fine for both counts is \$250,000. Following a hearing held on June 8, 2009 before a U.S. Magistrate Judge, RUTHERFORD was ordered released on her own personal recognizance pending disposition of this case.

**The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.**

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